Long-term Industry Projections

The main goal of the long-term Industry Projections and Census Tools Consortium is to provide methods and tools to improve the development and delivery of industry/occupational employment projections for State research and analysis units. To accomplish this objective Consortium members have undertaken several research projects.

One of the major projects was to develop a tool for analysts to produce industry projections that can be used as input for the MicroMatrix occupational projections system. The long-term Projection System (*LTP*) provides the analyst with a wide variety of tools to investigate industry employment characteristics and behavior. Analysts can make pre-projection decisions by developing location quotients, time series, growth rate analysis, and review the national, state, and local industry mix. Industry employment projections can be accomplished by using any one or several of the methods offered by the system. Researchers can build models using shift share analysis, time series, or predefined and customized regression techniques. Once the models are selected for each industry they are saved and used to build an Industry Control Totals (*ICT*) file used as input for the MicroMatrix System.

The *LTP* System has been provided to each State R&A unit. In most States the system will be used to develop industry projections in preparation for the next round of industry/occupational projections that will begin this fall. A Pentium Processor with 16 MB of RAM is the desirable personal computer configuration. However, the system will run on a 486 machine with 8 MB of RAM.

On going Consortium research focuses on the use of tools and techniques that analysts use to develop or review data. Research continues on the use of the Occupational Area Specific Information System (*OASIS*). This project is looking at the validity of using *OASIS* to estimate sub-state occupational staffing patterns. Replacement rates and change factors used in the development of occupational projections are also being reviewed. Another project provides access to State projections on the Internet. This information can be found at *http://udesc.state.ut.us/almis/stateproj/*

Future research will look at additional uses of the Internet for the delivery of industry/occupation projections information. Researchers are also reviewing areas of concern in the new OES/Wage program. Other research includes looking at labor supply, providing projection guidelines for States, and providing a projections reference manual. The Consortium will continue to develop enhancements for the *LTP* System and provide technical

LONG-TERM PROJECTIONS CONSORTIUM

- Industry Projections System for State Analysts
- Occupational projections research
- Internet access of State and National Industry/Occupational Information
- Sub-State Occupational staffing patterns
- Technical Support and Training of State Analysts

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